(b) Based on the request of the State of Uttaranchal, the Central Government has released a quantity of 26000 M.Ts. of advance non-levy sugar upto 30.09.2002. Further, in order to enable the sugar factories to liquidate their stocks, the following measures have been taken:-

(i) The Doiwala sugar factory has been provided temporary relief by way of permitting them to sell 700 M.Ts. of non-levy sugar equivalent to the unlifted levy sugar stocks.

(ii) The quantitative ceiling on export of sugar has been removed.

(iii) The Sugar Development Fund (SDF) Act, 1982 and the SDF Rules, 1983 have been amended, enabling reimursement of the internal transport costs and neutralization of ocean freight disadvantage on export shipments of sugar.

(c) All the sugar mills of Uttaranchal State has been allocated buffer stock based on the stocks available on 31.10.2002.

(d) A quantity of 41979 M.Ts. has been allocated as buffer stock to the ten sugar mills of Uttaranchal.

Wage structure of labourers in FCI

2363. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the present wage structure of temporary/casual labourers working with FCI; and

(b) the details of the welfare schemes formulated by Government for these labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Casual labourers engaged in the depots of the Food Corporation of India for foodgrains handling operations are paid the wages as prescribed by the local District Collector/District Magistrate.

(b) These labourers are eligible for the benefits of Provident Fund, Gratuity and Workmen Compensation as per statutory provisions.